

**COURSE TITLE: Contemporary Spanish Society: From Dictatorship to Democracy**

**DESCRIPTION:** Why are Spaniards currently exhuming mass graves of the Civil War? How can the country tolerate an unemployment rate of 20 percent? Why has Catalan and Basque nationalism dominated politics for decades? Why does a country with a historic reputation for *machismo* boast such progressive laws on gender and gay marriages? How come political corruption remains so prevalent? This course examines political and social issues relevant to Spaniards today. It begins by discussing recent history in order to contextualize the major themes of the past few decades. It then moves to those subjects that emerged out of the transition to democracy – regionalism, terrorism, and linguistic pluralism – and still account for many of the peculiarities of Spanish politics. The second half of the course analyses “Spain’s Second Transition” under José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero by focusing on immigration, Islamic fundamentalism, foreign policy, gender and family relations, historical memory, political corruption, and the economic crisis. The course is multi-disciplinary, consisting of a mixture of readings from political science, history, and cultural studies. Each session will consist of a lecture and a class discussion.

**LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION:** English

**REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT\*:** Class participation (15%); oral presentation (5%); essay (20%); mid-term exam (30%); final exam (30%)

Students are expected to attend all class sessions prepared to discuss the reading. Students are also required to write an essay (7 pages long; Time New Roman 12; 1.5 lines) that cover the major subjects discussed in the class. Students will be required to give a short presentation on their essays during the final class sessions. The essay will be submitted in hard copy and also sent by email to the professor.

**Essay Topics:** Students may choose to write on any of the following essay topics. All other essay topics must be cleared in advance with the professor.

1. To what extent has Spanish society come to terms with the legacy of the Civil War, Francoism and the repression?
2. Why has terrorism persisted in the Basque Country despite the advent of democracy?
3. Discuss and evaluate the merits and drawbacks of linguistic normalization in Catalonia.
4. How have gender and family relations changed since the transition to democracy?
5. Discuss and evaluate the challenges that immigration presents in Spain today.
6. Discuss and evaluate the most salient characteristics of Zapatero’s “Second Spanish Transition”?
7. To what extent has Spanish foreign policy (and policy toward the European Union) shifted since the transition to democracy?

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** By the end of the course students will be able to:

- engage directly in debates concerning events in Spain currently covered in the news.
- articulate the historical context of regional tensions in Spain today.
- analyse the tremendous changes that have taken place within Spanish society and culture over the past three decades.
- demonstrate knowledge of the major issues relevant to Spaniards and Europeans today, including immigration, unemployment, the economic crisis, gender relations, and the European Union.

**CONTENT:**

Session 1. Introduction to the course.

Session 2. The Construction of the Spanish State

*Required Reading:* José M. Magone, “The Transformation of Spanish Politics: A Review of the Historical Legacy,” in *Contemporary Spanish Politics*, 2d. ed. (Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2009), pp. 1-32.

Session 3. The Legacy of the Past: Francoism and Repression

*Required Reading:* Michael Richards, “Civil War, Violence, and the Construction of Francoism,” in *The Republic Besieged*, ed. Paul Preston and Anne L. Mackenzie (Edinburgh: University of Edinburgh Press, 1996), pp. 197-240.

Session 4. The Legacy of the Past: Francoism and Development

*Required readings:* Sebastian Balfour, “The *Desarollo* years, 1955-1975,” in *Spanish History since 1808*, ed. José Álvarez Junco and Adrian Shubert (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000), pp. 277-288.

Session 5. The Transition to Democracy

*Required Reading:* Paloma Aguilar, “The Opposition to Franco, The Transition to Democracy, and the New Political

System,” in *Spanish History since 1808*, ed. José Álvarez Junco and Adrian Shubert (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000), pp. 303-314.

Session 6. Political Parties and Governments since the Transition (1)

*Required Reading:* Santos Juliá, “The Socialist Era, 1982-1996,” in *Spanish History since 1808*, ed. José Álvarez Junco and Adrian Shubert (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000), pp. 331-344.

Session 7. Political Parties and Governments since the Transition (2)

*Required Reading:* Sebastian Balfour, “The Reinvention of Spanish Conservatism: The Popular Party since 1989,” in *The Politics of Contemporary Spain*, ed. Sebastian Balfour (Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2005), 146-168.

Session 8. The Legacy of the Transition: The Pact of Memory and Forgetting

*Required Reading:* Paloma Aguilar, “Justice, Transition, and Memory in the Spanish Transition,” in *The Politics of Memory: Transitional Justice in Democratizing Societies*, ed. Alexandra Barahona de Brito, Carmen Gónzales Enriquez, and Paloma Aguilar (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001), pp. 92-118.

Session 9. The Legacy of the Transition: Regions and Regionalization

*Required Reading:* Christopher J. Ross, Bill Richardson, and Begoña Sangrador Vegas, “Regionalization and Regionalism,” in *Contemporary Spain*, 2d. ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008), pp. 80-116.

Session 10. Catalan, Basque, and Galician Nationalisms

*Required Reading:* John Hooper, “Centrifugal Forces,” in *The New Spaniards*, 2d. ed. (London: Penguin, 2006), pp. 217-230.

Session 11. Controversy in Catalonia: Linguistic Normalization

*Required Reading:* John MacGinnes, “Consensus and Controversy in Language Normalisation in Catalunya: The 1999 Law,” *Journal of Catalan Studies* (October, 1999).

Session 12. Controversy in the Basque Country: The Persistence of Terrorism

*Required Reading:* José Manuel Mata, “Terrorism and Nationalist Conflict: The Weakness of Democracy in the Basque Country,” *The Politics of Contemporary Spain*, ed. Sebastian Balfour (Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2005), pp. 81-105.

Session 13: **Review Session**

Session 14: **Midterm Exam**

Session 15: Spanish Foreign Policy and the Terrorist Attacks of 11 March 2003

*Required Reading:* Paul Heywood, “Desperately Seeking Influence: Spain and the War in Iraq,” *European Political Science*, v. 3, n.1 (2003): pp. 35-40; and Giles Tremlett, “11-M: Moros y Cristianos,” in *Ghosts of Spain* (London: Faber and Faber, 2006), pp. 246-280.

Session 16: Spain’s Second Transition? The Socialist Government of José Luis Zapatero

*Required Reading:* Omar G. Encarnación, “Spain’s New Left Turn: Society Driven or Party Instigated?” *South European Society and Politics*, v. 14, n.4 (2009): pp. 399-415.

Session 17: Spain and the European Union

*Required Readings:* Charles Powell, “Spanish Membership of the European Union Revisited,” *South European Society and Politics*, v. 8, nos. 1-2 (March 2003): pp. 147-168; and Carlos Closa, “Much Ado About Little: Continuity and Change of the European Union Policy of the Spanish Socialist Government,” *South European Society and Politics*, v. 14, n. 4 (2009): pp. 503-518.

Session 18: Gender, Family, and Marriage

*Required Reading:* John Hooper, “Sex: From Francoist Prudery to Gay Marriage,” and “Men and Women: *Machismo* Meltdown,” in *The New Spaniards*, 2d. ed. (London: Penguin, 2006), pp. 108-133.

Session 19: The Exhumation of Mass Graves and the Historic Memory Law

*Required readings:* Stephanie Golob, “*Volver*: The Return of/to Transitional Justice Politics in Spain,” *Journal of Spanish Cultural Studies* v. 9, n.2 (July 2008): pp. 127-141.

Session 20: Immigration

*Required Reading:* Marisa Ortún Rubio, “Are the Spanish For or Against Immigration,” in *The Long March to the West: Twenty-First Century Migration in Europe and the Greater Mediterranean Area*, eds. Michel Korinman and John Laughland (Edgware, Middlesex: Vallentine Mitchell Academic, 2007), pp. 152-164.

Session 21: The Persistence of Political Corruption

*Required Reading:* Francisco Jiménez, “Building Boom and Political Corruption in Spain,” *South European Society and Politics*, v. 14, n.3 (September 2009): pp. 255-272.

Session 22: The Economic Crisis

*Required Readings:* Selection of Articles from *The Economist*: “Joblessness Soars in Spain” (7 May 2009); “Unemployment in Spain (9 July 2009), “Spain’s Property Market” (30 July 2009); “Spain’s Economic Troubles” (26 November 2009).

Session 23: The Current Political Situation in Spain. Political debates over Zapatero’s succession. *Required Readings* Selection of articles from The Guardian and The Economist

Session 24: **Student Presentation of Paper Topics**

Session 25: **Student Presentation of Paper Topics**

Session 26: **Final exam**

### **REQUIRED READING:**

Paloma Aguilar, “The Opposition to Franco, The Transition to Democracy, and the New Political System,” in *Spanish History since 1808*, ed. José Álvarez Junco and Adrian Shubert (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000), pp. 303-314.

Paloma Aguilar, “Justice, Transition, and Memory in the Spanish Transition,” in *The Politics of Memory: Transitional Justice in Democratizing Societies*, ed. Alexandra Barahona de Brito, Carmen González Enriquez, and Paloma Aguilar (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001), pp. 92-118.

Sebastian Balfour, “The *Desarollo* years, 1955-1975,” in *Spanish History since 1808*, ed. José Álvarez Junco and Adrian Shubert (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000), pp. 277-288.

Sebastian Balfour, “The Reinvention of Spanish Conservatism: The Popular Party since 1989,” in *The Politics of Contemporary Spain*, ed. Sebastian Balfour (Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2005), pp. 146-168.

Carlos Closa, “Much Ado About Little: Continuity and Change of the European Union Policy of the Spanish Socialist Government,” *South European Society and Politics*, v. 14, n.4 (2009): pp. 503-518.

Omar G. Encarnación, “Spain’s New Left Turn: Society Driven or Party Instigated?” *South European Society and Politics*, v. 14, n. 4 (2009): pp. 399-415.

Francisco Jiménez, “Building Boom and Political Corruption in Spain,” *South European Society and Politics*, v. 14, n. 3 (September 2009): pp. 255-272.

Stephanie Golob, “*Volver*: The Return of/to Transitional Justice Politics in Spain,” *Journal of Spanish Cultural Studies* v. 9, n.2 (July 2008): pp. 127-141.

Paul Heywood, “Desperately Seeking Influence: Spain and the War in Iraq,” *European Political Science*, v. 3, n.1 (2003): pp. 35-40.

John Hooper, “Centrifugal Forces,” in *The New Spaniards*, 2d. ed. (London: Penguin, 2006), pp. 217-230. John Hooper,

“Sex: From Francoist Prudery to Gay Marriage,” and “Men and Women: *Machismo* Meltdown,” in *The New Spaniards*, 2d. ed. (London: Penguin, 2006), pp. 108-133.

Santos Juliá, “The Socialist Era, 1982-1996,” in *Spanish History since 1808*, ed. José Álvarez Junco and Adrian Shubert (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000), pp. 331-344.

John MacGinnes, “Consensus and Controversy in Language Normalisation in Catalunya: The 1999 Law,” *Journal of Catalan Studies* (October, 1999).

José M. Magone, “The Transformation of Spanish Politics: A Review of the Historical Legacy,” in *Contemporary Spanish Politics*, 2d. ed. (Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2009), pp. 1-32.

José Manuel Mata, “Terrorism and Nationalist Conflict: The Weakness of Democracy in the Basque Country,” *The Politics of Contemporary Spain*, ed. Sebastian Balfour (Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2005), pp. 81-105.

Marisa Ortún Rubio, "Are the Spanish For or Against Immigration," in *The Long March to the West: Twenty-First Century Migration in Europe and the Greater Mediterranean Area*, eds. Michel Korinman and John Laughland (Edgeware, Middlesex: Vallentine Mitchell Academic, 2007), pp. 152-164.

Charles Powell, "Spanish Membership of the European Union Revisited," *South European Society and Politics*, v. 8, nos. 1-2 (March 2003): pp. 147-168.

Michael Richards, "Civil War, Violence, and the Construction of Francoism," in *The Republic Besieged*, ed. Paul Preston and Anne L. Mackenzie (Edinburgh: University of Edinburgh Press, 1996), pp. 197-240.

Christopher J. Ross, Bill Richardson, and Begoña Sangrador Vegas, "Regionalization and Regionalism," in *Contemporary Spain*, 2d. ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008), pp. 80-116.

Giles Tremlett, "11-M: Moros y Cristianos," in *Ghosts of Spain* (London: Faber and Faber, 2006), pp. 246-280.

### **RECOMMENDED READING:**

Sebastian Balfour ed., *The Politics of Contemporary Spain* (Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2005)

Kerman Calvo, "Sacrifices That Pay: Polity Membership, Political Opportunities and the Recognition of Same-sex Marriage in Spain". *South European Society and Politics*, v. 12, n. 3 (2007): pp. 295-314.

Kerman Calvo and Irene Martín, "Ungrateful Citizens? Women's Rights Policies in Zapatero's Spain," *South European Society and Politics*, v. 14, n. 4 (2009): pp. 487-502.

Carlos Closa and Paul Heywood, *Spain and The European Union* (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2004) Omar G.

Encarnación, *Spanish Politics: Democracy after Dictatorship* (New York: Polity Press, 2008)

Bonnie N. Field ed., *Spain's Second Transition? The Socialist Government of José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero* (New York: Routledge, 2010)

Francisco Ferrándiz, "The Return of Civil War Ghosts: The Ethnography of Exhumations in Contemporary Spain," *Anthropology Today*, v. 22, n. 3 (2006): pp. 7-12.

Richard Gunther and José Ramón Montero, *The Politics of Spain* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: 2009).

Paul Heywood, "Corruption in Contemporary Spain," *Political Science and Politics*, v. 44, n.4 (2007): pp. 176-199.

Fernando Jiménez, "Political Scandals and Political Responsibility in Democratic Spain," *Politics and Policy in Democratic Spain: No Longer Different?*, ed. Paul Heywood (London: Frank Cass, 1999), pp. 80-102.

Jo Labanyi, "Memory and Modernity in Democratic Spain: The Difficulty of Coming to Terms with the Spanish Civil War," *Poetics Today*, v. 28 (Spring 2007): pp. 89-116.

José M. Magone, *Contemporary Spanish Politics*, 2d. ed. (Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2009).

Kenneth McRoberts, *Catalonia: Nation Building without a State* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001)

Ludger Mees, *Nationalism, Violence, and Democracy: The Basque Clash of Identities* (London: Palgrave, 2003)

Diego Muro, *Ethnicity and Violence: The Case of Radical Basque Nationalism* (Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2007)

Diego Muro, "Territorial Accommodation, Party Politics, and Statute Reform in Spain," *South European Society and Politics*, v. 14, n. 4 (2009): pp. 453-468.

Charles Powell, "A Second Transition or More of the Same? Spanish Foreign Policy under Zapatero," *South European Society and Politics*, v. 14, n. 4 (2009): pp. 519-536.

Andrew Richards, "Progressive Failure: Governments, Unions, and the Continuing Marginalization of Immigrants in Spain," *South European Society and Politics*, v. 14, n. 4 (2009): pp. 469-485.

Ignacio Sánchez-Cuenca, "The Persistence of National Terrorism: The Case of Eta," in *Violent Non-State Actors in Contemporary World Politics* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2010).